

CROP-WEATHER REPORT

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National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

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Month of February 2005

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: February temperatures above normal.

Soil moisture supplies slip downward.

Mild weather good for calving and lambing.

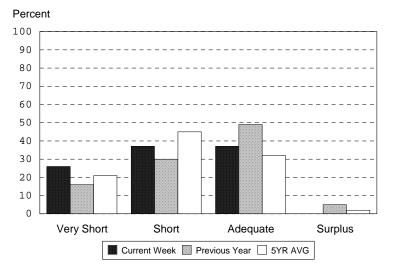
Temperatures for the four weeks through March 4 averaged above normal for the central and eastern portions of the State while the western portion was below average. Daytime temperatures reached the mid 40's to low 60's in many areas of the State. Only the western district had significant snow cover. Except for some extreme western areas, producers were looking for more moisture.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated adequate in 37 percent of the State, down 8 points from February 6. Last year at this time, 49 percent was rated adequate and the 5-year average is 32 percent. Subsoil moisture was rated adequate in 30 percent of the state, compared with 32 percent last month, 34 percent last year, and the 5-year average of 24 percent.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

		TOPSOIL	9				
	This Week	Last Year	- 4	This Week	Last Year		
Very							
Short	26	16	21	36	27	31	
Short	37	30	45	34	39	45	
Adeq	37	49	32	30	34	24	
Surp	0	5	2	0	0	0	

Topsoil Moisture March 6, 2005



FIELD CROP REPORT: Winter wheat conditions slipped slightly with the dry conditions. Sixty-seven percent of the crop was in good or excellent condition, down 4 points from the previous month. Conditions were still considerably better than last year at this time when only 15 percent of the crop was in good condition. About two-thirds of the acreage had no wind damage, with the remainder having mostly light damage. Also, over 80 percent of the acreage had no freeze damage, and the remainder had light damage.

CROP CONDITION TABLE

ITEM	V POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL		
	Percent						
Winter Wht	0	7	26	65	2		

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS TABLE

	This	Last	5-Yr
	Week	Year	Avg
Spring Calves Born	22	24	25
Farm Flock Ewes Lambed	26	26	31
Farm Flock Sheep Shorn	29	28	34

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Hay and roughage supplies were rated adequate or surplus in 81 percent of the State, behind last year when 94 percent of the State had adequate or surplus supplies. Shortages were mostly in the Northeast. Calving progressed with 22 percent on the ground by March 6, a little behind the average of 25 percent. Farm flock lambing was off to a good start with 26 percent complete. Farm flock shearing slowed from last month but remained 1 point ahead of average. Calf and lamb losses due to unfavorable weather and disease were lighter than normal to normal.

Cattle and sheep were rated in fair to mostly good condition at the end of February. Spring grazing prospects were mixed as more moisture was needed. Prospects were mostly good in the Northwest and West and very poor to fair elsewhere.

WEATHER SUMMARY: Temperatures for the four weeks through March 4 averaged above normal for the central and eastern portions of the State while the extreme western portion was below average. Temperatures ranged from 7.9 degrees below normal in Big Piney to 6.7 degrees above normal in Riverton. The low temperature for the month was recorded in Big Piney at 25 degrees below zero, and the high temperature was 63 in Archer. Highs ranged mostly from the mid 40's to low 60's. Lows ranged from minus 20's to the positive single digits. Precipitation averaged below normal for most of the State. The most precipitation fell in Sheridan with 1.25 inches and Afton with 1.17 inches.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR MONTH ENDED MARCH 4, 2005

TEMPERATURE :				: PRECIPITATION				
:	:	:	:	:	:	CUMUL	ATIVE	1/
:	:	:			:			
:	:	:	:		:		NORM :	
:	:		DEP. :		DEP. :	,		
STATION :	: MAX :			PAST:		DATE :	CURR:	
STATION:						DAIL .		
SNAKE DRAINAGE								
Jackson	46	-14	-3.1	0.39	-0.74	1.84	2.69	-0.85
Afton	45	-19	-7.2	1.17	-0.08	2.15	2.86	-0.71
GREEN & BEAR DRAIL								
Uinta County AP	40	0	-2.9	0.40	-0.28	0.85	1.48	-0.63
Big Piney AP	33	-25	-7.9	0.46	0.16	1.31	0.69	0.62
Rock Springs AP	45	-4	-0.9	0.14	-0.39	0.99	1.24	-0.25
BIG HORN DRAINAGE								
Cody	56	1	0.6	0.00	-0.33	0.23	0.79	-0.56
Deaver	57	-3	1.5	0.27	0.13	0.57	0.31	0.26
Greybull AP	58	- 9	1.6	0.05	-0.25	0.05	0.78	-0.73
Powell Field St	56	0	0.5	0.03	-0.12	0.21	0.34	-0.13
Worland FAA AP	59	-6	0.9	0.08	-0.15	0.11	0.53	-0.42
POWDER, LITTLE MO		GUE DRA	INAGE					
Kaycee	61	-4	2.4	0.21	-0.22	0.40	0.92	-0.52
Sheridan WSO AP	61	- 7	2.5	1.25	0.65	1.44	1.44	0.00
BELLE FOURCHE DRA	INAGE							
Recluse 11NNW	57	-19	-0.8	0.52	0.09	0.52	0.89	-0.37
Sundance	58	5	3.2	0.00	-0.73	0.50	1.52	-1.02
CHEYENNE & NIOBRAI	RA DRAII	NAGE						
Newcastle	62	10	4.2	0.27	-0.35	0.83	1.18	-0.35
Redbird	60	7	3.0	0.06	-0.42	0.46	0.88	-0.42
LOWER PLATTE DRAINAGE								
Archer	63	3	1.2	0.33	-0.25	0.87	1.10	-0.23
Casper AP	56	5	4.6	0.11	-0.55	0.28	1.34	-1.06
Cheyenne AP	55	8	2.2	0.14	-0.41	0.26	1.10	-0.84
Chuqwater	57	3	1.8	0.20	-0.45	0.62	1.35	-0.73
Douglas AP	5 <i>9</i>	4	4.0	0.11	-0.45	0.42	1.01	-0.59
Torrington AP	62	8	3.5	0.07	-0.39	0.23	0.84	-0.61
Wheatland 4 N	60	9	2.0	0.16	-0.22	0.39	0.66	-0.27
WIND RIVER DRAINAGE								
Lander AP	57	7	3.8	0.05	-0.54	0.96	1.19	-0.23
Riverton AP	54	6	6.7	0.01	-0.26	0.40	0.56	-0.16
UPPER PLATTE DRAINAGE								
Laramie AP 48 -7 1.2 0.11 -0.38 0.43 1.02 -0.59								
Rawlins AP	49	- 7 4	1.7	0.11	-0.36	0.43	1.15	-0.59
Saratoga	49	- 6	-0.1	0.21	-0.31	1.00	1.13	-0.02
Saracoga		- 	-0.1		-0.15	1.00		-0.02

BLANKS - INDICATE MISSING DATA.

AP - AIRPORT. T - TRACE. () - ESTIMATES.

1/LATE REPORTS CAN CHANGE PREVIOUS WEEK'S CUMULATIVE TOTALS.